

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 06558 270912Z

20

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-15 PPT-02 SY-10 FBIE-00 SCA-01

DRC-01 /138 W

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P 270848Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 285

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 6558

EO 11652 GDS

TAGS PINT KS

SUBJECT BRIEF RETURN OF BERNARD WIDEMAN

REF SEOUL 5013

1. BERNARD WIDEMAN, THE FORMER FULBRIGHTER WHOSE
EXPULSION FROM THE ROK WAS SUBJECT OF REFTEL, CALLED
EMBASSY AFTERNOON OF SEPTEMBER 27 FROM FULBRIGHT
HOUSE IN SEOUL TO REPORT THE HAD JUST RETURNED TO KOREA
BUT WAS BEING TOLD TO LEAVE AGAIN BY ROK IMMIGRATION
AUTHORITIES WHO WERE PRESENT. HE CLAIMED TO HAVE ENTERED THE
ROK LEGALLY AS A REPORTER FOR NBC, ON A FOUR-YEAR
RENEWABLE TOURIST VISA OBTAINED AT THE ROK EMBASSY
IN TOKYO AFTER HIS EARLIER EXPULSION, BUT ONLY AN
HOUR AFTER LANDING IN KOREA HE WAS APPREHENDED BY
THE AUTHORITIES. WIDEMAN REQUESTED THAT THE
EMBASSY INTERVENE TO ENABLE HIM TO PRESENT HIS
CREDENTIALS AS A REPORTER TO THE MINISTRY OF
CULTURE AND INFORMATION. LATER THIS AFTERNOON
WIDEMAN WAS TAKEN TO THE AIRPORT BY IMMIGRATION
OFFICERS.

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2. THE EMBASSY IMMEDIATELY INFORMED MCUI AND MOFA OF

THE FACTS OF WIDEMAN'S SITUATION. AN EMBASSY
CONSULAR OFFICER HAS GONE TO THE AIRPORT TO
OFFER APPROPRIATE CONSULAR ASSISTANCE. MR
WIDEMAN APPEARED TO APPRECIATE THE EMBASSY'S
EFFORTS. IN TELEPHONE DISCUSSION WITH POL COUNSELOR WIDEMAN
SAID AIR PORT IMMIGRATION AUGHORITIES HAVE SHOWN HIM LEGAL
AUTHORITY FOR BARRING HIS ENTRY. WIDEMAN SEEMED
TO BE RESIGNED TO THE FACT THAT HE WOULD NOT BE
ALLOWED TO REMAIN IN KOREA, BUT AS UNCERTAIN
WHETHER HE WOULD BE ALLOWED TO REMAIN OVERNIGHT.
HABIB

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NNN

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30 JUN 2005

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TAGS: PINT, KS, US, (WIDEMAN, BERNARD)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005